

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed on August 14, 2003, Applicants submit the following Amendment and Response. Claims 49-55 have been withdrawn by the examiner. Claims 56 and 99 have been amended. Claims 56-69 remain pending. Support for these amendments can be found in the specification at, e.g., Fig. 6 and page 22, line 25 – page 23, line 23. Therefore, these amendments are made without the addition of new matter.

35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 66 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for allegedly failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicant regards as the invention. In particular, the examiner objected to the term “PCMCIA.” Applicants have amended claim 66 and the specification, to specify that “PCMCIA” stands for “Personal Computer Memory Card International.” Support for this definition can be found at <http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/PCMCIA.html>, as copy of which is attached as Exhibit A.

35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 56-69 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Hollis et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,846,708) in view of Wilding et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,726,026). Applicants have amended claim 56 to specify the fluidic system includes “a flow cell connecting the inlet port and the outlet port, the portion of the flow cell oriented toward the biochip defining a first plane” and an optical window that has “a planar surface that is offset from the first plane.” Claims 57-69 are dependent on claim 56, and therefore, contain all of the limitations of amended claim 56.

Applicants submit that neither Hollis nor Wilding teach or suggest all of the limitations of the claims as amended. Therefore, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection and reconsideration of the claims as amended.

Applicants submit that the claims, as amended, are free of the cited art and are in position for allowance. Please charge Deposit Account No. **50-2862** for the 1-month extension fee and any other fees required by this submission. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this communication, or feels that an interview might facilitate prosecution of the application, he is invited to contact the undersigned at (949) 737-2900.

Respectfully submitted,

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PCMCIA

Last modified: Thursday, February 06, 2003

Short for *Personal Computer Memory Card International Association*, and pronounced as separate letters, PCMCIA is an organization consisting of some 500 companies that has developed a standard for small, credit card-sized devices, called *PC Cards*. Originally designed for adding memory to portable computers, the PCMCIA standard has been expanded several times and is now suitable for many types of devices. There are in fact three types of PCMCIA cards. All three have the same rectangular size (85.6 by 54 millimeters), but different widths

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- Type I cards can be up to 3.3 mm thick, and are used primarily for adding additional ROM or RAM to a computer.
- Type II cards can be up to 5.5 mm thick. These cards are often used for modem and fax modem cards.
- Type III cards can be up to 10.5 mm thick, which is sufficiently large for portable disk drives.

As with the cards, PCMCIA slots also come in three sizes:

Exhibit A

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- A Type I slot can hold one Type I card
- A Type II slot can hold one Type II card or one Type I card
- A Type III slot can hold one Type III card or any combination of two Type I or II cards.

In general, you can exchange PC Cards on the fly, without rebooting your computer. For example, you can slip in a fax modem card when you want to send a fax and then, when you're done, replace the fax modem card with a memory card.

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Gateway: Network Adapters Sells network adapters including ISA, PCI, USB, PCMCIA cards, and server adapters, cables, and accessories.

L-com Connectivity: Network Hardware Adapters Factory direct online merchant offering fiber optics, cabling, connectors, network equipment and supplies. Specializes in custom cables.

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LINKS

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Site of PCMCIA, the worldwide organization for PC card technology. There are links to standards and literature, industry news, a resource directory, related Web links, information about PC cards, and the PCMCIA organization.

PCMCIA primer

This is a primer on PCMCIA, adoption of standards, market information, and development efforts.

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Viking Office Products: Cables & Adapters Supplies computer hardware and accessories, including cables and adapters for USB, serial, and firewire ports. Free delivery over \$25.

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